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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner : Janet L. Andres, Ph.D

Group Art Unit : 1646

Applicants : Pravin Chaturvedi, et al.

Serial No. : 09/941,282

Filed : August 28, 2001

For : OPTIMAL COMPOSITIONS AND METHODS

THEREOF FOR TREATING HCV

INFECTIONS

Cambridge, Massachusetts January 23, 2004

Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AND REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

This is in response to the August 26, 2003 Office Action in the above-identified application. Applicants have petitioned concurrently herewith to extend the period for responding to that Action for two (2) months, from November 26, 2003 up to and including January 26, 2004 and have paid the required fee under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136(a) and 1.17(a)(2).

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Kindly amend claims 1-2, and 4.

Pursuant to the revised amendment format of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, applicants have enclosed herewith a copy of the amended claims in the Claim Amendment section below: